

WIEN WEIN

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Index of Content

1.	Vienna and Wine - A Look Back.....	3
2.	Viennese Wine – The Seduction of Vienna.....	4
3.	WIENWEIN – Right at the Top	5
4.	The Wine Growing Area of Vienna and its Specialities.....	6
5.	Nussberg	7
6.	Bisamberg.....	8
7.	Mauer	9
8.	WienWein promotes Vienna´s “Gemischter Satz”	10
9.	The Success Record 2006 - 2008	12
10.	Portraits of the Four Winemakers	13
11.	What they´re saying in the Press	21

1. Vienna and Wine - A Look Back

The Romans could always be counted on. In the first century A.D., when the soldiers of the empire were searching for the perfect spot to build a border fortress near the Danube river, they decided on the Celtic village of Vindobona. Because here were highly maintained vineyards and slopes – something immediately recognized by the occupiers from the south. But even at that time, wine growing in the area was nothing new: archeological discoveries have proven that as far back as 750 B.C., wine was cultivated on the Nussberg, Kahlenberg and Bisamberg slopes. The Romans brought their own cultivated vines to the area as well, and therefore systematically expanded its wine growing culture.

Written documents about vineyards and their owners here date back to the 12th century - a sign of just how important wine culture was throughout the Middle Ages. Wine growing suffered severe set-backs during the two Turkish sieges, in 1529 and 1683. The area outside of the city walls was devastated by the Ottoman army, and the Thirty Years War left its marks as well.

The tradition of winemakers selling their own wine goes back to the time of Charlemagne, although at that time, the producers could do this only three months during the year. The basis for the classical Viennese Heurigen, the traditional wine tavern, was created by Emperor Josef II in 1784, when he gave the permission to winemakers to sell at their own establishments not only their own wines, but also their own food. So the taverns became the ideal places for snacking. In fact, family visits to Heurige on Sunday afternoons was traditional in the 19th century. Please note that the name "Heuriger" has nothing to do with the word "heurig" which refers to wine from "this year"; it comes from "Hauer", the old Viennese nickname for "wine grower".

A speciality of Viennese winemakers was the "G ´mischte Satz". These wines were made from an assortment of grape varieties which were not blended as a cuvée wine after fermentation, but actually grew already mixed together in the vineyards. So the fine differences of the soils and the microclimates could be extracted from the best grapes.

2. Viennese Wine – The Seduction of Vienna

The rapid growth of Vienna at the beginning of the 20th century pushed wine growing to the suburbs. And indeed, there it stayed. Today, 678 hectares are planted with vines, and modern Viennese wine growing is concentrated around the districts of Nussberg/Kahlenberg, Bisamberg and Maurerberg.

In the second half of the 20th century, an impression that the local wine culture would deteriorate, because of the overwhelming success of the Heuriger seemed to develop: the image of Viennese wine grew to be automatically associated with the taverns, which served mainly “G ́spritzten” – wine mixed with soda water. However, top quality wine from Vienna has pushed through – though somewhat recently – and is now making an impressive mark. In fact, the top growth wines are beginning to cause quite a buzz.

Ironically, attention to these wonderful wines began abroad, because the Viennese themselves for so long actually identified their wines with the cozy wine taverns. Hardly any top wine from the Austrian capital could be found on the wine list of Viennese restaurants. Sommeliers themselves often advised guests: “If you want to drink a Viennese wine, you have to go to the Heurigen.”

Fortunately, wines from Vienna are now seducing the locals as well. While the Heuriger remains a Viennese icon, many are now serving fine wines from excellent vintages – some of the best in Austria. These are wines characterized by their origins to the north and south of the city – where the soils are completely different. Also, they reflect the advantages gained from the area microclimate created by the Danube river close by.

3. WIENWEIN – Right at the Top

It is no coincidence that wines from Vienna are successful like never before. It is a result of the hard work and determined effort by a group of young, talented winemakers who, over several years, have ensured that their wines achieve international acceptance.

What unites these winemakers is enthusiasm, the unconditional focus on quality, and a deep understanding of their own roots - linked with the courage to brake occasionally from tradition.

And realizing their thoughts and ideas mutually is proving to be the ideal springboard for the production and promotion of fabulous Viennese wines.

At the beginning of 2006, **Rainer Christ** from Jedlersdorf, **Michael Edlmoser** from Mauer, **Fritz Wieninger** from Stammersdorf and **Richard Zahel** from Mauer founded the group **WIENWEIN**.

The goal of **WIENWEIN** is to establish new quality standards for Viennese wine. But above all, it is to prove to wine lovers in Vienna and abroad that Viennese wine has a truly unique character, is an enhancement to every wine list and demands its place in the international arena.

4. The Wine Growing Area of Vienna and its Specialities

The administrative borders of the city make Vienna a special wine growing area. And this is because it is the world's sole wine growing area that lies completely within the borders of a major city.

Despite its small size, the area is quite diverse. The Danube river creates not only a special microclimate, but also separates geological zones. Also, the "Wienerwald", or Vienna Woods, is an extensive part of the city, and in fact is responsible for climatic differences between the southern, northern and western parts of Vienna.

The northern edge of the Vienna wine growing area borders the "Weinviertel", and its southern sites face the Pannonian-kissed zone of the Thermenregion. The abundance of varieties and styles found in this part of Vienna are impressive.

The three most important districts of the Vienna wine growing area are the **Nussberg**, whose slopes dip to the Danube; the **Bisamberg**, north of the river, and the **Maurerberg**, in southern Vienna.

5. Nussberg

The Nussberg is a major site covering approximately 200 hectares, and has a variety of sub-sites. The vineyards, facing south and southeast, look to the Danube. Or, as the Viennese used to say: they "viewing to the water".

The soil consists mostly of chalk-rich shell limestone, and the southern slope was even identified as a remnant of a coral reef from the ancient Tertiary Sea. At the foot of the Leopoldsberg slope, however, are loam soils mixed with slate.

The Danube's influence is quite strong, as on one side, its reflection of the sun can be intensive, while on the other side, its surface helps soften the variations of temperature. The result can be long, warm days, especially in the autumn. A continuous light wind from the west dries out the moisture brought by the humid nights – which is why botrytis is nearly non-existent here. This combination of factors makes it possible for the grapes to be harvested late, with complete ripeness.

The vineyards of the Nussberg extend across three levels. The lowest one lies at approximately 175 meters above sea level, close to the Danube. The middle level is at around 340 meters above sea level, and the Plateau - the highest part - is at 360 meters. The most interesting part for wine growing is the middle level, because it is warmer than at the Plateau, but not as humid as those sites near the Danube.

The best sites are named **Ulm, Preussen, Rosengartl and Langteufel** - all located at the middle level.

This area is well suited for Riesling, which can attain an astonishingly complex mineral expression here. And this is true for Chardonnay and Weißburgunder as well. The lower areas of this section are wonderful for Traminer and Veltliner. All in all, the wines from these sites are characterized more by depth and spiciness than by primary fruit.

In the 19th and early 20th centuries, one of the most famous wines was the "Nussberger" - a "Gemischter Satz" of Riesling, Neuburger, Weißburgunder and Traminer

Alongside the Nussberg (which includes the Leopoldsberg and the Kahlenberg), on the left bank of the Danube, are vineyards in Grinzing and, further inland, Sievering, Dornbach and Neustift.

6. Bisamberg

Geologically, the Bisamberg is an extension of the Kahlenberg, and was long ago cut off by the Danube. The soils are, therefore, calcareous, but mixed with loess and loam as well – making them ideal for water storage. In higher areas, the soil contains plenty of pebbles, which allow for ample drainage.

The climate is influenced by the Danube as well. The southern slopes enjoy continuously mild temperatures and plenty of late autumn sun. Because of the single position of Bisamberg, the climate around is very dry and very windy.

Thriving here is a wide palette of grape varieties: Grüner Veltliner in the loess soils broken up by gravelly stones or sand; weighty Chardonnay and Pinot Blanc from the plateau, and fruity Pinot Noirs. The lower slope sites are ideal for red varieties like Zweigelt, Merlot and even Cabernet Sauvignon.

“Stammersdorf”, “Strebersdorf” and “Jedlersdorf” are very old Viennese places, which conserve a very typical character like a small wine-village.

The most important sites on the Bisamberg

Jungbergen: Warm soils with a high content of weathered sand and limestone help allow the grapes to ripen early. Produced here are wines that are rich and concentrated - wonderfully suited for Riesling and red wines such as Zweigelt.

Gabrissen: a hot site with sand and weathered limestone soils, just perfect for late ripening varieties. A particularly noteworthy island within the Gabrissen is Bruch. This sub-site of around 3 hectares. consists of primary rock and crystalline soils, which deliver strong mineral notes to Veltliner and Riesling as well as the red wines.

Falkenberg: The plateau on the Bisamberg is dominated by shell limestone. The site is rather cool and enjoys light winds, making it ideal for Burgundy varieties - especially the white ones.

Wiesthalen: Is one of the oldest sites in Austria, and forms the backbone of the Bisamberg. The forest is a protective shield around the vines. The soils consist of clay with plenty of minerals, including magnesium and iron. They are optimal for Burgundy varieties, which do not require much heat. Spawned here are wines of elegance and finesse.

7. Mauer

Mauer is home to approximately 50 hectares of vineyards which are divided into two large sites showing completely different soil structures.

Kadolzberg (with single vineyards Kadolzberg, Leiten and Kroissberg)

Facing northeast, towards Vienna, is the "Wiener Platte", which consists of limestone, crumbled sediments and loam. The soil is cool, heavy and stores water. From here, yielded are expressive red wines as well as white wines from the varieties Sauvignon Blanc, Muskateller, Pinot Noir and Chardonnay.

Maurerberg (with single vineyards Sätzen, Reisberg and Himmel)

This mountainous hill faces south, towards the "Thermenregion". In fact, the town of Gumpoldskirchen is clearly in view. Sandy shell limestone, mixed with primary rock comprise a porous, warm soil. The climate is strongly Pannonian-influenced, an ideal terroir for red wines. The white Burgundy varieties here become powerful and ripe, but the cooler sites can spur very captivating Rieslings.

8. WienWein promotes Vienna´s "Gemischter Satz"

The Gemischter Satz has a long tradition in the world of Viennese wine-growing. Vines of various grape varieties grow together in one vineyard; the grapes are harvested and vinified together as well. This process is different from the one used in producing a cuvée, for which the grape varieties are harvested and fermented separately before they are blended together and bottled; with the Gemischter Satz, the marriage takes place right from the beginning - in nature. This underscores why Vienna´s Gemischter Satz is not only an ideal terroir wine, but it is also a mirror-image symbol of Viennese culture.

WienWein – the quality-driven group of wine makers made up of members Rainer Christ (Jedlersdorf), Michael Edlmoser (Mauer), Fritz Wieninger (Stammersdorf) and Richard Zahel (Mauer) – fully respects Vienna´s "Gemischter Satz" as the richest, most important speciality in Viennese wine-growing. And this is why they are becoming more strongly involved in the planting of mixed vineyards throughout the Vienna wine-growing area. The result of meticulous, quality-focused work in the vineyards as well as careful vinification in the cellar, the Gemischter Satz wines can easily compete with top single-varietal wines and deserve a solid position place on the wine lists at fine restaurants and bars.

To help further secure the quality and authenticity of Vienna´s Gemischter Satz, the **WienWein** group has established strict regulations for the wine´s production (regulations which are even stricter than those set in the Austrian Wine Law).

Each WienWein producer creates two versions of the Viennese Gemischter Satz:

- The classic Viennese Gemischter Satz is from one or more vineyards in the Vienna wine-growing area, and is made of at least three varieties growing together in those vineyards. The wine is fermented in steel tanks in order to maintain the vividness of the fruit, and does not contain more than 12.5% alcohol. The WienWein logo must appear on the bottle capsule.

Taste definition: fresh; typically "Viennese"; vivid; natural; spicy, and even rich in contrasts.

- The site-specific Gemischter Satz originates from a single site, which must be named on the bottle label. The vines, which are planted together and feature a minimum of three grape varieties, are at least 20 years old. This wine, which can be matured in the traditional

large wooden barrel (but not in barrique), must have an alcohol content of 12.5 % or more, and display the WienWein logo on the bottle capsule.

Taste definition: multi-layered; expresses typicity of region and soils; complex; exciting; mineralic; elegant, terroir-rich; exudes an interplay of aromas, and is a versatile food partner.

9. The Success Record 2006 - 2008

Behind the success of WienWein are two years of pure and dedicated hard work.

From the day that the group was founded in 2006, the four member winemakers have been implementing activities that create excitement in the market and peak consumer curiosity.

Below are the most important milestones and success factors at a glance:

WienWein today cooperates with the most important wine trading businesses in Austria.

Which is why WienWein wines are available throughout all of Austria.

WienWein has gained the respect and appreciation of the gastronomic world through dozens of tastings and presentations. Consumers love WienWein wines together with delicious foods and dishes – something that restaurateurs and sommeliers have become strongly aware of.

According to Del Fabro, the most important distributor to the Viennese gastronomic sector, sales of wines from Vienna increased by 30% over the last two years. In 2006, 81, 000 bottles were sold. Today, that number has increased to

106, 000 bottles; two thirds of these are from the WienWein producers.

In the summer of 2007, WienWein inspired a new Viennese wine boom in the city's gastronomy sector through the "Wiener Gemischter Satz by the Glass" campaign.

Some 150 businesses spontaneously jumped on board, with most of them putting this age-old Viennese wine speciality on their fixed wine lists and programmes.

International distribution: Great interest is growing abroad. Today, WienWein is available in 29 countries around the world - from the USA to Japan and from Sweden to Taiwan. An extremely high demand comes from America, Switzerland, Belgium and throughout Asia.

Development of the wineries themselves: The boom has had a significant impact on the WienWein wine estates. In 2006 and 2007, all four wineries increased their turnover by an average of 20 -25%.

10. Portraits of the Four Winemakers

Rainer Christ, Jedlersdorf

Together with his father, Franz, the talented winemaker **Rainer Christ** cultivates soils of the Bisamberg. This cooperation that has an even symbolic meaning, especially because the combination of tradition and innovation is a cornerstone of the aspiring winery. With a 400-year history, the winery in Jedlersdorf boasts a heritage of excellent sites, some with very old vines. And in 2005, the winery was rebuilt and enlarged, with parts of the old building carefully renovated. From materials of natural stone, wood and concrete a piece of modern architecture has been created.

The Christs love wines with structure and finesse, although these characteristics are not always evident upon the first sip. But they ultimately define the wines, which are gaining more and more fans among the connoisseurs. While Grüner Veltliner is one of the top Christ wines, Rainer is also dedicating more and more attention to the white Burgundy varietals and red wines.

The most important sites

Bruch: A sub-site of Gabrissen, Bruch is situated on a slope of gravelly stone left over from the ice age, as well as crystalline. Grüner Veltliner grows perfectly here.

Falkenberg: A plateau with shell limestone sediments and weathered limestone; plenty of chalk content as well. Weißburgunder (Pinot Blanc) fits well here.

Wiesthalen: Situated on a high slope, it is rich in loam and clay minerals (for example magnesium and iron). Merlot thrives in these soils.

Gabrissen: Weathered sand and limestone as well as clay comprise the soils of this flat slope. Warm and with ample drainage, the Zweigelt variety grows well here.

Overall area: 15 hectares

Production: approx. 85. 000 bottles, 70% white-wine, 30% red-wine

Export: 30% of production is exported. The main export countries are Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, Sweden, Great-Britain and the USA.

Varieties

white: Grüner Veltliner, Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Riesling, Sauvignon Blanc, Gelber Muskateller and Welschriesling.

red: Zweigelt, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Shiraz, Mephisto (Cuvée of Zweigelt, Cabernet and Merlot)

Range

White wines

Welschriesling, Gabrissen

Wiener Gemischter Satz

Grüner Veltliner, Bisamberg

Grüner Veltliner, Bruch

Grüner Veltliner, X

Sauvignon Blanc, Breiten

Riesling, Wiesthalen

Riesling, Alte Reben

Chardonnay

Weissburgunder, Der Vollmondwein

Wiener Gemischter Satz, Bisamberg, Alte Reben

Red Wines

Blauer Zweigelt, Bisamberg

Mephisto, (50% BZ, 30% CS, 20% ME)

Shiraz

Cabernet Sauvignon

XXI, Wiesthalen (75% ME, 25% CS) - Fassprobe

Sweet wines

Or Liquid

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Michael Edlmoser, Mauer

International experience garnered from his time spent at the California cult winery, Ridge Vineyards, and a family tradition that traces all the way back to 1374, are what **Michael Edlmoser** pours into the "Wienerische". The unique terroir of the Maurerberg, on the southern slope of the Wienerwald (Vienna Woods), helps create the ideal conditions for producing in-depth, multilayered white and red wines. The result of course give wines of true individual style and pure elegance. And he certainly makes no compromises. The grapes in his vineyards are selected by hand, and the modern technology in his cellar is designed to support the gifts of nature.

The wines are available in the fine food & wine sector, through the select trade and, naturally, at the Edlmoser Heurigen in Vienna's Mauer district.

"I make wines like I prefer them myself – wines of pure elegance and with individual style. My aim is to make the most of the terroir of our sites every year, and to vinify authentic Viennese wines with unique character."

The most important sites

Maurerberg, In Sätzen, Reisberg, Himmel and Kadolzberg

Total area: 9.5 ha. in Mauer, Vienna

Production: approximately 60. 000 bottles, 70% white-wine, 30% red-wine

Export: 10% of production is exported, mainly to Germany and throughout Europe.

Varieties

white: G´mischter Satz, Riesling, Chardonnay, Grüner Veltliner, Welschriesling, Sauvignon blanc and Gelber Muskateller

red: Zweigelt, St.Laurent, Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz

Range

White Wines

Rosé de noir (ZW/STL)

Gelber Muskateller, Reisberg

Wiener Gemischter Satz

Wiener Gemischter Satz, Maurerberg

Wiener Gemischter Satz, Maurerberg, Alte Reben

Grüner Veltliner, Himmel

Riesling, Sätzen

Riesling, Maurerberg

Chardonnay, Sätzen

Chardonnay, Maurerberg

Sauvignon blanc, Reisberg

Sauvignon blanc, Maurerberg

Weissburgunder, Maurerberg

VIENNE, Chardonnay, grande reserve

Red wines

Neuberg, rot

vienna reserve (CS/ZW)

Schicht, Zweigelt, grande reserve

St. Laurent, grande reserve

Sweet wine

Eiswein

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Weingut Fritz Wieninger, Stammersdorf

The internationally-known winemaker **Fritz Wieninger** can be called the pioneer of the "New Vienna Wine Growing". A great deal of thanks is owed to Fritz, because his wines have propelled Viennese wines in general to a high level of demand as well as image.

In the 1980s, Fritz took over his parents' century-old winery located at the foot of the Bisamberg. As soon as Fritz entered the operation, he converted its production to quality wine only. Plus, he experimented with new grape varieties, introduced new techniques such as temperature-controlled fermentation and barrique-ageing - and practically changed the picture of Viennese "Gemütlichkeit", or cosiness, almost single-handedly.

As a winemaker from "the other side of the Danube", in transdanubian Stammersdorf, Fritz Wieninger has gone to the heart of the traditional Viennese wine world and today cultivates single vineyard sites on the Bisamberg and the Nussberg.

"I try to use the numerous facets of my grape material," Fritz says. "For me, to show the differences in terroir and vintage, and to get the character of the vineyard into the bottle – this is my greatest challenge."

The most important sites and soils

Preussen: Sub-site of the Nussberg, with limestone, extreme minerality. Wines: Riesling, Grüner Veltliner and Traminer

Rosengartl: Sliver of the Nussberg, with limestone and a layer of Shell limestone. Wine: G´mischter Satz

Ulm: Sub-site of the Nussberg, entirely in the east next to the Danube; strong, with shell-limestone, and extremely calcareous like a coral-reef. Wine: G´mischter Satz

Kaasgraben: situated relatively high up, with weathered limestone. Wine: Grüner Veltliner

Herrenholz: sandy and loamy loess; also calcareous. Wines: Grüner Veltliner, Chardonnay and Pinot Noir Grand Select

Breiten & Kritschen: sandy and loamy loess, also calcareous. Wine: Top Chardonnay

Jungenberg: sandy and loamy loess, also calcareous. Wines: Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Riesling

Wiesthalen: soil with clay and minerals. Wines: Grüner Veltliner, Chardonnay, Blauburgunder, Sauvignon and Muskateller

Total area: 30 ha.

Production: approximately 220. 000 bottles, 65% white-wine, 35% red-wine

Export: 35% of production is exported. The main export countries are Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Czech Republic, the Netherlands, Belgium, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Great Britain, Ireland, Spain, Poland, Rumania and Russia.

Overseas: the USA, Canada, Hong Kong, Puerto Rico, Singapore, Malaysia, Sri Lanka

Varieties

white: Grüner Veltliner, Chardonnay, Gemischter Satz, Riesling, Gelber Muskateller, Traminer, Sauvignon blanc and Welschriesling

red: Zweigelt, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Pinot Noir

Range

White Wines

2006, Rosé de Pinot
Gelber Muskateller, Wiesthalen
Grüner Veltliner, Leicht & Trocken
Wiener Gemischter Satz
Chardonnay Classic
Grüner Veltliner, Herrenholz
Grüner Veltliner, Nußberg
Grüner Veltliner, Kaasgraben
Grüner Veltliner, Preussen
Riesling, Riedencuvée
Riesling, Preussen
Riesling, Rosengartl
Riesling, Nußberg
Wiener Gemischter Satz, Nußberg, Alte Reben
Wiener Gemischter Satz, Rosengartl, Alte Reben
Wiener Gemischter Satz, Nußberg, Alte Reben
Der Schrammler
Traminer, Nußberg
Chardonnay Select
Chardonnay Grand Select

Red Wines

Wiener Trilogie, Cuvée rot
Pinot Noir Select
Pinot Noir Grand Select
Danubis Grand Select

Sweet Wines

Nußberg Beerenauslese
Nußberg Trockenbeerenauslese

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Richard Zahel, Mauer

Ever since **Richard Zahel** was named “Vienna Winemaker of the Year” in 2000, his traditional winery has been in the spotlight. Richard Zahel has taken this family operation from a time when its wines were sold mainly to Heurigen – the local wine taverns – to what it is today: a modern winery based on quality without compromise. To help achieve this development, the cellar was rebuilt, and processing of the grapes and vinification were modernised.

In the vineyards, Zahel works according to nature’s rhythm. He puts the special qualities of the soils as clearly as possible into the bottle. And like his winery, the style of Zahel’s wines is modern as well, yet it is still unmistakably “Viennese”. Two thirds of Zahel’s wines come from his vineyards in the south of Vienna, while the other third hails from the traditional sites of the Nussberg.

“My goal is to make available to the world Viennese wine, with all of its diverse terroir characteristics and multitude of flavours”, says Richard Zahel, “Our wine is truly unique in the world, because it is grown and produced from the soils of this city so rich in tradition”.

The Most Important Sites and Soils of Vienna’s

Mauer district

Kadolzberg: chalk-rich ancient sea sediments and loam. **Wines:** Viennese “Gemischter Satz”, Gelber Muskateller classic

Leiten: Heavy loam soils, with high water storage capacity. **Wines:** St. Laurent; Zweigelt; Gemischter Satz; Cabernet and Merlot

Roth Dürren: Heavy loam, with high water storage capacity. **Wines:** Chardonnay; Sauvignon blanc and Zweigelt

Kroissberg- Plattl: Loam and chalk-rich ancient sea sediments; the highly-situated Weinberg Mauers. **Wines:** Sauvignon blanc und Gelber Muskateller

Langsatz: Sandy and loamy loess soils; also rich in chalk. **Wines:** Pinot Noir, St. Laurent

Reissberg: shell limestone, very rich in chalk (like coral reef....) **Wine:** Riesling

Wien 19, Grinzing Nussberg

Muckenthal: Sandy and chalk-rich loam and loess **Wine:** Grüner Veltliner

Rosengartl am Nußberg: A slice of the Nussberg; chalky, with a layer of shell limestone **Wines:** Traminer; Nussberg Grande Reserve

Langteufel am Nußberg: single vineyards of the Nussberg; extreme minerality. **Wine:** Riesling

Bellevue: relatively high-situated; weathered limestone. **Wine:** Chardonnay

Reisenberg: A sub-site of the Nussberg. Chalk-rich, with a layer of shell limestone; **Wine:** Gemischter Satz

Riedencuvée: Wiener Komposition, red cuvée

Riedencuvée: Schloss Schönbrunn Wein

Total area: 18 ha

Production: approximately 100. 000 bottles. 55% white-wine, 45% red-wine

Export: 33% of the wines are exported. The main export countries are Germany, Switzerland, Czech Republic, the USA, Canada, China, Japan, Philippines, Singapore

Varieties

white: Riesling, Chardonnay, Grüner Veltliner, Welschriesling, Sauvignon Blanc, Gelber Muskateller, Traminer

red: Zweigelt, St. Laurent, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Pinot Noir

Range**White wines**

Wiener Gemischter Satz

Wiener Gemischter Satz, Nussberg

Chardonnay, Kadolzberg

Sauvignon Blanc Kroissberg

Grüner Veltliner, Steinberg, Grinzing

Grüner Veltliner, Nussberg

Riesling auf der Mauer

Riesling, Reisberg

Riesling, Nussberg, halbtrocken

Orangetraube

Traminer, Nussberg, Auslese

Wiener Gemischter Satz, Nussberg Grande Reserve

Chardonnay Bellevue

Red wines:

Wiener Komposition (ZW/STL/Bl.Port.) Cuvée rot

Rotleiten (ZW/SL,Cabernet Sauvignon/Merlot) , Cuvée rot

St. Laurent Reserve

SAPOR Cabernet Sauvignon - Fassprobe

Antares Grande Reserve (SL/CM/ME/ZW)

Sweet wine:

Beerenauslese Rosengartl

Trademark:

Schloss Schönbrunn – Weingarten in front of the Schloss Schönbrunn planted as „Wiener Gemischter Satz“

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11. What they´re saying in the Press

„No Circus Winemakers“: the Second Success Record of the WienWein Group

Roman David Freihsl, Der Standard, April 2008

[...] In the Wein & Co branches alone, sales increased from 23, 000 bottles to 28, 000 bottles, again of 65 percent. Through the wine dealer Del Fabro, more than 100, 000 bottles of Viennese wine were delivered to the gastronomy last year, up from 81, 000 bottles. Two-thirds of these came from the four winemakers comprising the WienWein group - Rainer Christ, Michael Edlmoser, Fritz Wieninger and Richard Zahel. Their cooperation together began only two years ago, and now they show a successful balance. In the meantime, WienWein is available throughout all of Austria.

Viennese wine is enjoying worldwide success. Wine from Vienna is already sold in 29 countries.

Claudia Schemerl-Streben, Österreich, April 2008

[...] The WienWein group, founded by four top wine producers, introduced its latest noble drops to the market on Monday. The winemaking-quartet also told a global success story: Their wines are already sold in 29 countries around the world. Through new – and often revived - products like "Gemischter Satz", they have achieved an increase in sales of up to 65 percent. Altogether, WienWein releases more than 600, 000 bottles per year.

Four Star-Winemakers against the „Reblaus“

Erich Kocina, Die Presse, April 2008

[...] The WienWein group freed the capital´s wine from the Heurigen stereotype and, within two years, made it even a society must-have.

... The group WienWein – made up of Fritz Wieninger, Rainer Christ, Michael Edlmoser and Richard Zahel – have achieved success in selling their wines to the top gastronomy sector via pure quality standards and an image offensive. Thanks to workshops and tastings, the four producers have highlighted the specialities of Viennese wine to connoisseurs and restaurateurs - and have cleared away the Heurigen cliché.

The winemakers have put special focus on the "Wiener Gemischten Satz". A wine whose reputation had declined significantly over the years, it has now been turned in to a highly treasured Viennese speciality by the young winemakers - and their highly persuasive efforts.

Exports play an important role as well. WienWein is available in 29 countries around the world, especially in the USA, where there is great demand. And just recently, Austrian Airlines began serving Zahel wines in business class of its long-distance service. After two years, the four winemakers have achieved a positive balance. In 2007, turnover increased by 20-25 percent, and around 600, 000 bottles were sold. But this should not be the end of the growth...

Vinological High-Flyers from Vienna

Allgemeine Zeitung Mainz, February 2008

(...) Austrians Reach a High Point at the 12th Rheingau Gourmet & Wine Festival.

Friends of Austrian wines can look forward to the noble wines of Viennese producers Fritz Wieninger, Rainer Christ, Michael Edlmoser and Richard Zahel. The wine-crazy quartet, who have formed the "WienWein" group, will enthuse

the festival's guests with excellent classic wines. Besides the traditional varieties ... the producers will introduce their "Wiener Gemischter Satz" - a symbol, a mirror-image, of Viennese culture.

Wine Knowledge: Gemischter Satz

Walter Hammer, Slow Food, February 2008

[...] To increase the quality and the reputation of this wine, four Viennese top winemakers formed the group "WienWein". Rainer Christ, Michael Edlmoser, Fritz Wieninger and Richard Zahel are drawing attention to the Gemischter Satz, typical for the wine-growing-region of Vienna....

"Trink ma noch a Glaserl Wein" ; Let's Drink Another Glass of Wine

Thomas Schwitalla, Welcome Aboard, January 2008

[...] Austrians have a fine feeling for style, so of course, everything should be just right when the four winemakers Rainer Christ, Michael Edlmoser, Fritz Wieninger and Richard Zahel are inviting guests to a special tasting: High above Vienna, they will introduce their new "Gemischter Satz" at the very place where - at least some - of these unique white wines grew ...

Renaissance of the Viennese Gemischter Satz

Otto Hartmann, Gastro, November 2007

[...] "Ein Achterl vom Gemischten Satz, bitte!". This classic, nearly forgotten order ("A small glass of Gemischter Satz, please") could be heard once again this summer – actually hundreds of times - in Vienna's top restaurants, in pubs and in wine bars The initiators of this revival are the four WienWein producers Rainer Christ, Michael Edlmoser, Fritz Wieninger and Richard Zahel. The goal of these four is to help Viennese wine rise to the top again. Through an unusually successful campaign, this Viennese wine speciality captivated the capital's gastronomy sector.

Fine Viennese blend

Peter Moser, Falstaff, May / June 2007

[...] In May of last year, a quartet of Viennese winemakers - Rainer Christ, Michael Edlmoser, Fritz Wieninger and Richard Zahel – made its public debut under the name of the association WienWein. The aim of WienWein was – and still is – to focus completely on the excellent quality potential of Viennese vineyard sites as well as to make its products better known to consumers. One year after the group's premiere, the new vintage was presented in the rooms of Vienna's Secession building, with hundreds of interested tasters in attendance. A highlight of this young wine show was the "Gemischte Satz", the most traditional wine of the Viennese.

Today, the law requires that at least two grape varieties must be fermented together, however, the WienWein group established for itself even more rigorous regulations and harvests for the Gemischte Satz at least three varieties – but usually even more – from one vineyard.

WienWein has decided to produce two versions of this wine: the classic Viennese Gemischte Satz as a somewhat lighter wine with up to 12.5% alcohol; and the powerful Gemischte Satz with its site explicitly named on the label.

That the association is heading in the right direction can be seen through Vienna's top gastronomy, which is expressing keen interest in the newly revitalized Gemischte Satz.

Do you speak "Gemischte Sätz" ?

Walter Tucek, ÖGZ, April 20th, 2007

[...] The most Viennese of wines, the Gemischte Satz, has happily returned. This is because of the WienWein producers – and the distinct characteristics of the wines.

The WienWein group – launched last year – set the incentives for reviving this Viennese wine speciality. Now the four have established their own regulations for producing the Gemischte Satz as well.

"WienWein" mixes up the scene with the Gemischte Satz comeback

Roman David-Freihsl, Der Standard, April 17th, 2007

[...] As the "WienWein" group, the four secessionists have clearly mixed up the local wine scene. One year after founding their association, Rainer Christ, Michael Edlmoser, Fritz Wieninger and Richard Zahel have begun the next initiative: They want to position the Gemischte Satz - after many years of decline - as a top wine.

A comeback for tradition. The Gemischte Satz should finally be chic.

Dieter Strasser, Kurier, April 17th, 2007

[...] The four self-proclaimed saviours of Viennese wine ride again - this time in the direction of tradition. The winemakers - alias the WienWein group - want to pluck the Gemischte Satz from the past....

The WienWein group wants to make a place for Gemischte Satz in the top gastronomy. In fact, this tradition-rich white wine should become chic. What's all the hype about? The Gemischte Satz should once again become the work horse of Viennese wine - and perhaps dust off the image of Schmalzbrot and the Heurigen at the same time. **Noble drop**

APA, April 20th, 2007

[...] The four quality winemakers of the "WienWein" association want to give new life to an old speciality: Together, they market the "Gemischte Satz". And yesterday, the "classic" and "single vineyard" variations were presented in the Wiener Secession. With these, the producers abide by criteria stricter than what is stated in the wine law.

Urban Rarities

Peter Keller, Neue Zürcher Zeitung am Sonntag, February 18th, 2007

[...] The view from the Nussberg is overwhelming ... For a long time, the Austrian capital owed its wine reputation solely to Heurigen. But for a while now, also demanding gourmets have been able to find sensational noble drops. Between 10 and 15 wine makers have quality written across their banners - the best of which are from a quartet of young producers who formed one year ago an association called "WienWein", or Vienna Wine. Their ambitious goal is to set high standards for Viennese wines and show consumers just how much character the wines have.

Amongst these four relatively (still) unknown winemakers who aren't exporting all of their wines to Switzerland is Fritz Wieninger. To him, uniform wines are an abomination. Richard Zahel tries to get harmonious expressions, while Rainer Christ prefers wines with structure and finesse. And the fourth member of the alliance, Michael Edlmoser, had travelled to California to discover that wine can be an "incredibly fantastic thing". And one of these, for example, is the authentic Viennese "Gemischte Satz", which has been a speciality ever since prehistoric times. Richard Zahel produces an exceptional example of this wine, which he makes from nine grape varietals.

G´mischter Satz

Christian Stoces, Lust und Leben, December 1st, 2006

[...] Recently, it was given a new lease on life. Not the Schmalz, nor the Liptauer cheese spread. It's the "g´mischte Satz" that's being celebrated - in the media, that is. Because in the glass, this wine never really went out of style. At the root of the media hype are four Viennese wine makers - Wieninger, Zahel, Christ and Edlmoser – who came together just like their "Satz" to form a special association. The way it usually happens in Vienna.

Turning from competitors into friends, these four work with full concentration on one goal: to convince wine lovers in Vienna and beyond that Viennese wine has a truly unique character and is a serious enhancement to every wine list.

Ausg´steckt ("We're open!")

Cornelius and Fabian Lange, Die Zeit, October 26th, 2006

[...] Rainer Christ isn't one to boast about his wines. He knows that they speak for themselves.

Fritz Wieninger, with his most important wine, the "Nussberger Alte Reben", was the first producer to bring dignity back to the "gemischter Satz". The volume of this multi-charactered wine stretches far beyond the possibilities of pure varietal wines. It is like a bell ringing on the palate. At first, the air vibrates; but then comes the sound, and the taster is taken away by the rush of flavour.

In the meantime, Wieninger has founded the "WienWein" brand and, together with his fellow soldiers Rainer Christ, Richard Zahel and Michael Edlmoser, he tells the clear, straight-forward truth: if wine from Vienna does not improve, it simply will die away – and with it the Heuriger culture.

Flying High

Ilka Lindemann, Weinwelt, October 1st, 2006

[...] "Standstill" is a foreign word to Fritz Wieninger. Therefore, it isn't astonishing that he takes care of not only his own success, but also – and perhaps even more so - of the image of Viennese wine. He initiated the founding of the WienWein group at the beginning of this year. ... For the time being, there are four members. We'll see who will join them in the future.

Viennese Wine: Away from the Rural Idyll

Erich Kocina, Die Presse, September 4th 2006

[...] „A fresh breeze". The winemakers of Austria's capital are seeking a younger, more modern image. And the classic "gemischte Satz" should serve as the flagship wine of Viennese producers. A group of young winemakers have announced the battle against the old-fashioned vine pest.

Together with winemakers Rainer Christ (Jedlersdorf), Michael Edlmoser (Mauer) and Richard Zahel (Mauer), Fritz Wieninger founded the "WienWein" association last Spring. Bearing this label, high quality wines from the capital should make their way into the federal states. And the most important step would be the one to the west: with seminars for sommeliers and hotel managers, the market on the other side of the Vienna Woods should open up. The most recent success: the wine store chain Wein & Co now includes these wines in its range.

A Supreme Idea

Peter Moser, Falstaff, October 2006

[...] The winemakers Rainer Christ (Jedlersdorf), Michal Edlmoser (Mauer), Fritz Wieninger (Stammersdorf) and Richard Zahel (Mauer) have formed a group called "WienWein". And these four have also set out to prove the

great potential of Vienna's vineyards. The special character of Viennese wine is manifested in its diversity, because each of the wine growing zones – all within a radius of just a few kilometers – is its own unique microcosm. Falstaff presents to you this dynamic Viennese quartet – the metropolis's highly promising quality workhorse.

Viennese Wine Wonder

Herbert Hacker, Skylines, October 2006

[...] Innovative winemakers have revolutionized Viennese wine production. Instead of mass wines, today, true jewels are produced - some of which are the finest in Austria. Recently, Fritz Wieninger, together with three other Viennese winemakers, introduced themselves as the "WienWein" group, whose target is to create new quality standards for Viennese wine.

Viennese Wine: Moving Away from the Rural Image

Erich Kocina, Die Presse, September 4th, 2006

[...] Fresh air. The winemakers in Austria's capital are after a younger, more modern image. The classic "gemischte Satz" – "mixed varieties" wine - should now become the workhorse and, in fact, the ideal symbol, of Viennese winemaking. There is a group of young producers who want to fight the old-fashioned phylloxera stereotype. Together with three other producers, Rainer Christ (Jedlersdorf), Michael Edlmoser (Mauer) and Richard Zahel (Mauer), Fritz Wieninger founded the "WienWein" association this past Spring. Bearing this label, high quality wines from the capital should make their way to the federal provinces as well. And the most important step in this direction is being taken toward the West: through seminars for sommeliers and hotel operators, the Wienerwald market should be opened up. The most recent success: trade chain Wein&Co is now including WienWein in its product range.

Phylloxera Was Yesterday

Florian Holzer, Falter, August 18th 2006

[...] It came as a surprise, but a very powerful one: within a very short time, Viennese wine transformed from some of the dullest in the country into a wine scene asset. Marketing-wise, the most important impulse for turning the wine into a serious boom product was the connecting of four of the most important Viennese wine advocates to the "WienWein" label in May of this year.

WienWein – Taking Their Place at the Top

Viktor Siegl, Vinaria, August 1st, 2006

[...] Vienna, the wine city, has awakened: Four top winemakers from the capital are steering Viennese wine to new glory. After a relatively short consultation period, the four and - according to our estimation – best vintners, Rainer Christ, Michael Edlmoser, Richard Zahel and Fritz Wieninger, have formed a new group

Sleeping Beauty on the Danube

Elisabeth Ruckser, Die Presse, June 30th, 2006

[...] That today, these top wines are available once again is the result of several years of long, hard work by a group of dedicated, fearless men. And four of these top winemakers are on a serious offensive: Fritz Wieninger

(Stammersdorf), Richard Zahel (Mauer), Rainer Christ (Jedlersdorf) and Michael Edlmoser (Mauer) have joined "WienWein", an association which is based on unconditional quality.

More Finesse from Viennese Vineyards

Peter Weirather, Vorarlberger Nachrichten, June 17th, 2006

[...] WienWein is giving new impulses to Viennese wine – Now quality has been added to tradition.

From the region for the region

Josef Schuster, ÖGZ, June 2nd, 2006

[...] The founding of their association is a professional step of quality care for the image of, and outstanding work for, the wines of Vienna. I've been waiting for this for a long time.

The Viennese wine wonder

Roman David-Freihsl, Der Standard, May 16th, 2006

[...] It is little wonder that four of the best Viennese winemakers no longer set their targets alone or in competition with one another - but with the label "WienWein" – under which they care together for the professional, international image of the Vienna's wines.

And very special about this top Viennese quartet is that they show the great climatic and geological diversity of the Viennese wine growing area.

Vienna as Austria's Wine Sleeping Beauty

Gerald Stoiber, Salzburger Nachrichten, May 16th, 2006

[...] The aim of these four top vintners is to increase the appreciation for the grape juice from the capital. The quartet wants to be a model of comparison for other Austrian wine regions.

Four vintners ennoble Viennese wine

Dieter Strasser, Kurier, May 15th, 2006

[...] The quartet counts on quality instead of cosyness, Schrammel music and Heurigen emotion.

New image for Viennese wine

Johann Werfring, Wiener Zeitung Journal, May 13th, 2006

[...] With the founding of WienWein, the power should now be concentrated so that the wine from the Danube metropolis receives the right value for its image.

Top wine from Vienna

Format, May 5th, 2006

[...] Rainer Christ, Michael Edlmoser, Fritz Wieninger and Richard Zahel together formed the group WienWein (expansion wanted!) and prove that the Viennese vineyards have serious potential.

Four Viennese vintners ennoble Viennese wine

Hans Pleininger, Wirtschaftsblatt, May 3rd, 2006

[...] These four - Wieninger and Christ in the north of the city, and Edlmoser and Zahel, both from Mauer in the south - joined WienWein to breath even more quality into the image of Viennese wine - and that more wine from Vienna finds its place on fine restaurant wine lists.

WienWein: New vintner quartet

Vinaria, May 1st, 2006

[...] From now on, the four will together prove the great potential of Vienna's vineyard sites.

Wine-tuned

Caro Maurer, Bonner General Anzeiger, Germany, April 30th, 2006

[...] Top-class instead of light Schoppen: Four vintners want to give a new profile to Viennese wine within the city limits.

Viennese Wine Newly Discovered

Sabine Immerz, Der Tagesspiegel, Germany, April 23rd, 2006

[...] Quality beyond the "Heurigen" cliché: Four young winemakers want to bring the Austrian capital with united power to the international stage.